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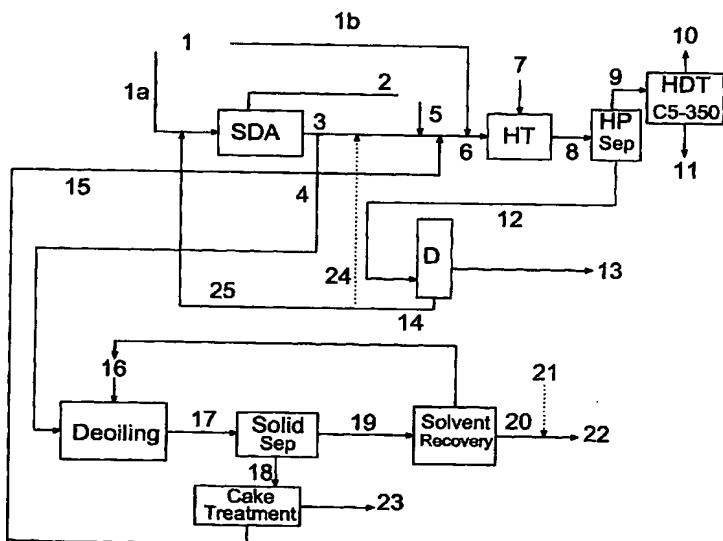
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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE CONVERSION OF HEAVY FEEDSTOCKS SUCH AS HEAVY CRUDE OILS AND DISTILLATION RESIDUES



(57) Abstract: Process for the conversion of heavy feedstocks selected from heavy crude oils, distillation residues, heavy oils coming from catalytic treatment, thermal tars, oil sand bitumens, various kinds of coals and other high-boiling feedstocks of a hydrocarbon origin known as black oils, by the combined use of the following three process units: hydroconversion with catalysts in slurry phase (HT), distillation or flash (D), deasphalting (SDA), comprising the following steps: mixing at least part of the heavy feedstock and/or at least most of the stream containing asphaltenes obtained in the deasphalting unit with a suitable hydrogenation catalyst and sending the mixture obtained to a hydrotreatment reactor (HT) into which hydrogen or a mixture of hydrogen and H₂S is charged; sending the stream containing the hydrotreatment reaction product and the catalyst in dispersed phase to one or more distillation or flash steps (D) whereby the different fractions coming from

the hydrotreatment reaction are separated; recycling at least part of the distillation residue containing the catalyst in dispersed phase, rich in metal sulfides produced by demetallation of the feedstock and possibly coke, to the deasphalting zone (SDA) in the presence of solvents, optionally also fed with at least a fraction of the heavy feedstock, obtaining two streams, one consisting of deasphalted oil (DAO) and the other containing asphaltenes, characterized in that the stream containing the hydrotreatment reaction product and the catalyst in dispersed phase, before being sent to one or more distillation or flash steps, is subjected to a high pressure separation pre-step in order to obtain a light fraction and a heavy fraction, the heavy fraction alone being sent to said distillation step(s) (D).



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